

Shaykh Sulaymān al-'Ulwān(حفظه الله) was asked about the ruling regarding scratching the head for the Muhrim [i.e. The person in the state of Ihrām]?

The Shaykh responded by saying: There's nothing wrong with that, even if some hairs fall off, Imām Mālik(رحمه الله) has narrated in the Muwattā' [2/290 - Sharh al-Zarqānī] with an authentic chain from 'ilqimāh ibn Abī 'ilqimāh from his mother that she said "I heard Ā'isha, the wife of the Prophet(صلى الله عليه وسلم) get asked whether a Muhrīm can scratch the body, so she said 'Yes, he can scratch it & do so harshly, even if my hands are tied up & I do not find anything except my feet, I would scratch'..."

And it's proven from the Prophet(صلى الله عليه وسلم) that he bathed while he is a Muhrīm[in the state of Ihrām], and the hadīth is in the Sahīhayn [Bukhārī & Muslim] from the hadīth of Abū Ayyūb al-Ansārī. And bathing habitat's hairs to fall off, and there has been no statement mentioned prohibiting that.

Infact, it's mentioned in the Sahīhayn [Bukhārī & Muslim] from the chain of 'Attā' from Tāwūs from ibn 'Abbās that the Prophet(صلى الله عليه وسلم) did cupping while he is Muhrīm.

And a group of scholars have permitted cupping for the Muhrīm, even if that results in cutting some of the hairs.

And others have said, he must pay the Fidyāh, to feed 6 poor people or slaughter a sheep or fast 3 days, and this Fidyāh is upon choice[meaning a person must pay the Fidyāh, but he can choose which one to pay]. But what's correct is that there's nothing upon him, because the Prophet(صلى الله عليه وسلم) did not mention in that any Fidyāh and delaying the message from its prescribed/necessary time is not permissible.

However, if the Muhrīm shaves all of his head for an excuse or other than that, then it's compulsory upon him to slaughter a sheep or fast 3 days or feed 6 poor people, for every poor person receives half of 2.5-3KG's[نصف صاع] and this is from the agreed upon matters between the scholars.

Allāh(سبحانه وتعالى) said "And whoever among you is ill or has an ailment of the head [making shaving necessary must offer] a ransom[Fidyāh] of fasting [three days] or charity or sacrifice."

And [it's narrated] from Ka'b ibn 'Ujrāh(رضي الله عنه) from the Prophet(صلى الله عليه وسلم) that he said "Perhaps your lice have annoyed you? He said yes O messenger of Allāh, so the messenger of Allāh(صلى الله اليه وسلم) said 'Shave your head and fast 3 days or feed 6 poor people or slaughter a sheep'.." Narrated by al-Bukhārī [refer to al-Fath 4/12] & Narrated by Muslim [Refer to Sharh al-Nawawī 8/118] and Allāh(جل وعلا) knows best.

Side Note [not from the Shaykh]: The reason why people scratch in Hajj is because of the hot weather & also possibly because of the presence of some insects which could make you itchy, which is why you see some people scratching really hard والله اعلم